

SALINA ARTS & HUMANITIES COMMISSION

March 21, 2007

The monthly meeting of the Salina Arts and Humanities Commission was held at the Smoky Hill Museum Community Room at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 2007. In attendance were Shawn Crawford, Randall Hardy, Luci Larson, Rachel Loersch, Gayle McMillen, Linda Smith and Ted Zerger. Staff Present: Sharon Benson, Kathy Burlew, Carrie Carpenter, Brigid Hall, Susan Hawksworth, John Highkin, Glenda Johnson, and Karla Prickett. Also in attendance: April Middleton, Salina Journal. Absent: Marilyn Benyshek, Shirley Braxton, Peggy DeBey, Brett Halderman, Linda Moore, Cheri Parr and John K. Vanier II.

Smith called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Focus Time: Greater Salina Community Foundation

Greater Salina Community Foundation board member, Jim Trower, presented \$1,000.00 for the grant award to fund SHRF's *Festival Families First* program, which provides buttons and free drink coupons to social service agencies to distribute to under-privileged families so they can enjoy the Festival. Greater Salina Community Foundation received \$106,000 in grant requests, with less than \$40,000 to distribute. SAHC is very honored to receive this money.

Minutes

McMillen motioned to approve the February 21, 2007 minutes and Hardy seconded. Motion passed.

Staff Reports

Hardy [re: Smoky Hill Museum Store] - is the store sales clerk position a volunteer position? Hawksworth – no, it is a paid position. Friends of the Museum board members are aware of the money that is made at the store and what is paid to the employee. The store is in the process of getting more merchandise in stock in hopes to increase sales.

Horizons Committee Update

Highkin – discussed the changes regarding the grant panel process. These changes are due to Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) requirements and the relationship between the Salina Arts & Humanities Foundation and the City of Salina (including the amount of City money involved in Horizons). Key points – evaluation of the proposals needs to focus on the written applications (and the information that it provides) and the evaluator's report; these two sources should provide all of the complete information necessary for discussion and ranking of applications. Concerning observers: please do not address them during the meeting or breaks; observers will receive similar instructions and there will be physical separation between observers and panels. A point of procedure – please direct any questions to the Executive Director not to staff or observers.

A letter to organizational applicants will be sent with the attached policy, requesting that they observe the same rules/guidelines as the Commissioner panel. A reminder on conflict of interest – those with an interest in any particular organization – “love, hate or

money” – should recuse themselves from the proceedings. The recused Commissioner should remove her/himself from the room. Loersch – a style suggestion: in directions to observers, each bullet but one starts with a verb; suggests making this consistent. Smith suggested that each Commissioner make notes beforehand on each grant with appropriate wording.

Crawford motion to approve the observer policy with the change verb suggestion and McMillen seconded. Motion passed.

Planning Committee Update

- Diane Mataraza will be meeting with commissioners who are not on the steering committee on Thursday, March 29th @ 5:30 p.m.
- We received \$500 for a “Seize the Moment Grant” from Greater Salina Community Foundation. This money will be used to add two organizations to the planning organizational surveys.

CAD

Highkin - Policy was passed with great effort from SAHC and City staff. SAHC will approach CAD Advisory Committee as an open process. The preliminary stages built around getting the committee constituted – 2 A&H Commissioners, 2 community members-at-large, 1 design professional, 1 practicing artist and 1 other artist/design professional. Larson – Can anyone who’s interested, who wants to be involved in the committee, have an opportunity to fill out Expression of Interest form? Highkin – Yes, we want to do community education and encourage dialogue, and bring in people who have experience with different projects.

Festival Update

Benson – reported on the food jury process. Identified 5 new vendors – Buffalo Ray’s – Island Noodles (soba noodles), a true Italian ice vendor, a nut vendor and a kettle korn vendor. Sponsorships were discussed. Prickett – juried fine art show on the 9th of March and Four Rivers on March 12th. She is getting the jurying results finalized and letters to go out. On Artists-in-Action (AIA) jurying – there are always technical issues with the AIAs which need to be addressed. She also said that Festival prints are here but is still finalizing artist statement by Randy Regier. Ben Schlitter’s t-shirt design to come soon. Patron breakfast mailing also to come soon. Other announcements: News Release will be completed by April 10th and Festival buttons will go on sale May 1st.

Museum Update

- Hawksworth – *Caveman to Craftsman* is an awesome new exhibit on the changing use of tools.
- Negotiating with Diane Mataraza and City Manager on Mataraza facilitating a strategic plan for the Smoky Hill Museum and the Friends of the Smoky Hill Museum organization.
- Education Coordinator Nona Miller’s father has recently passed away.

Other Business

Information on *Art a la Carte* and *The Spring Poetry Series*.

On the Nomination Committee – Highkin said that SAHC makes recommendations for new Commissioners each summer to Mayor and City Commission. Highkin and Smith recommend that SAHC constitute the Committee next month.

McMillen motioned to adjourn and Hardy seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

/kab